

A Fragmentary Inscription of Adad-narari I

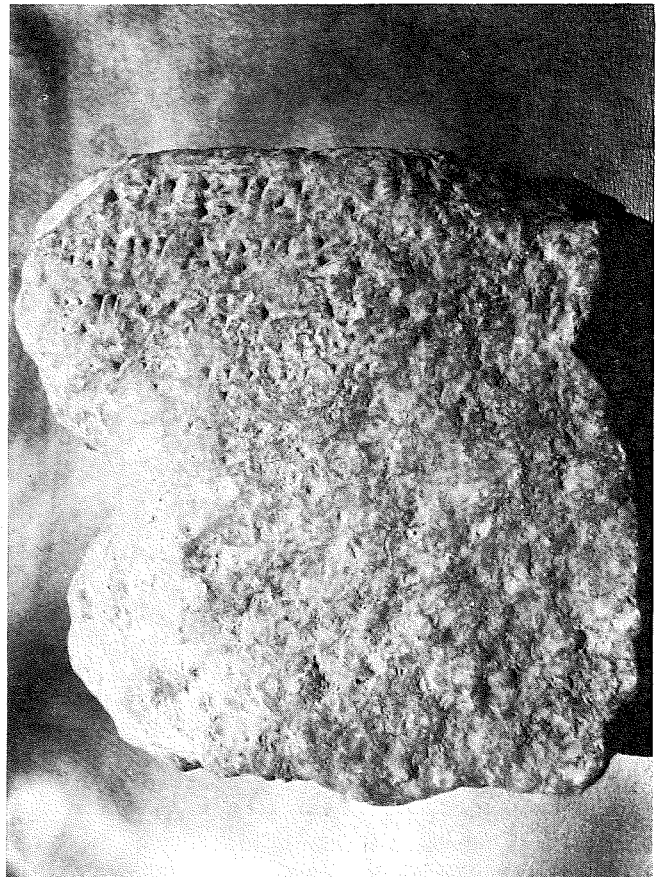
A. KIRK GRAYSON
University of Toronto

The fragmentary inscription published here has an importance beyond what its modest size would suggest for it represents the first royal inscription of Adad-nārārī I (c. 1306–1274 B.C.) in which Babylonia (Karduniash) is mentioned. The stone fragment on which the text is inscribed is in the possession of a European collector who wishes to remain anonymous but who generously permitted its publication. The text was first brought to my attention by Professor W.G. Lambert.

The fragment contains the last few lines of Adad-nārārī's Standard Introduction (1'–5a' = Weidner, IAK XX, 1 = Grayson, ARI 1, LXXVI, 1:29–32) but the remainder of the text (5b'–19') is new and unique. It seems to combine descriptions both of building activity and military action, a highly unusual combination for a royal inscription. But the reference to Karduniash (11) is particularly noteworthy. That Adad-nārārī I waged

war with Karduniash is known from other sources (see Grayson, *Chronicles* Appendix B sub Adad-nārārī I) but this is the first occurrence of the name in one of his royal inscriptions. The text from which this fragment comes must have been the king's official narration of that war. If this is so, then the apparent mention of the earlier king, Enlil-nārārī (7'), must be an allusion to his war with the same foe.

The buildings referred to are a wall (5b') and the ziggurat of Aššur (15'), which is reminiscent of another Adad-nārārī I text (Edzard, *Sumer* 20 [1964], pp. 49f. and pls. lf. = Grayson, ARI 1, LXXVI, 14) in which reconstruction of the wall of the Inner City, opposite the Aššur ziggurat, was described. However, in this fragment work on the ziggurat itself seems to be narrated, activity otherwise unattested for this king.



Lacuna

- 1') 'i-na' [é-kur]
 2') [šarru]-ti-šu a-na r[u-qa-te]
 3') [mu-še]-ik-ni-iš KUR. [mu-uš-ri]
 4') [KUR. šu-b]a-ri-i ra-pa[l-ti murappiš mišrī u]
 5') [ku-du-r]i e-nu-ma BÀD [.]
 6') [. . .] šá i-na maḥ-r[i]
 7') [. . .] ma-ḥar enlil[BE]-nār[ārī(ERÍN.GAB?)]
 8') [. . .] a(?) x ḥi i x [.]
 9') [ina kakkī dan]-'nu(?)¹-te šá aš-šur E[N(?)]-ia

 10') [. . . uš]-man-ni-ia it-ti x [. . . adkīma . . .]
 11') [kurigalzu šar] KUR. kar-du-ni-aš i-n[a(?) kār-
 ištar(?) . . .]
 12') [. . .] x-ti-x-ma am-da-' [.]
 (reverse)
 13') [.] ka-ra-ši šu-'ú(?)¹ [.]
 14') [.]x gaš-ru-tu ú-bi[l(?)]
 15') [. . . ziqur]-ra-te šá aš-šur EN-ia A[N(?)]
 16') [.]x šá a-'šar(?)¹-šá 'ú(?)¹-[nekkir(?)]
 17'-19') (traces)

Lacuna

Lacuna

1'-5a') [Adad-nārārī , descendant of Aššur-uballit, strong king, whose priesthood was outstanding] in [awesome Ekur and the well-being of] his [sovereignty] was [established] as far away [as the mountains], subduer of the land [Mušru, disperser of the hordes of the] extensive [land] of the Šubaru, [extender of borders and] boundaries:

5b'-14') At that time the wall [.] which previously [.] before Enlil-nār[ārī] [. with the] mighty [weapons] of Ashur, [my] lord [. . . I mustered] my troops with [. . . and fought against Kurigalzu, king] of Karduniaš in [Kar-Ištar] [.] that camp [.] mighty, I/he brought [.]

15'f.) The ziggurat of Aššur my lord [.] the location of which [. . . had destroyed]

Lacuna

Commentary

- 9') cf. Weidner, AfO 5 (1928-29), p. 90:24-9.
 11') cf. Grayson, Chronicles no. 21 i 25'
 16') cf. Weidner, IAK XX, 6:40